


# SANTA CLARITA



## EMERGENCY OUTLOOK

*Each year, thousands of acres of wildland and hundreds of homes are destroyed during fire season. Urban wildfire is one of the most fearsome of such hazards. Making the fire hazard even worse is the growing population in new communities that were once wildland areas now surrounding major cities. To protect your family and your possessions, you must follow certain steps-both inside and outside your home to make your property "Fire Wise." By following these important fire safety steps outlined you will give your home a chance to survive a wildfire. Start now by conducting a fire hazard hunt!*

### How to make your environment safer

#### Outside Your House

- Clear dry grass, brush and leaves as required by local regulation. Use ice plants and other fire resistant plants to landscape.
- Clear all debris from the roof, gutter and spouts.
- Remove dead limbs within six feet of the ground on trees 18 feet high or taller to keep ground fires from spreading to trees.
- Remove weak, dead and leaning trees.
- Thin out heavily wooded areas.

- Relocate firewood at least 30 feet from all structures and 10 feet from hazards.
- Vary the heights of plants, shrubs and trees and provide adequate spacing between them.
- Replace wood shake and other combustible roofing materials with non-combustible materials.
- Cover chimneys and stovepipes with non-flammable screens with mesh 1/4 inch or less.
- Make sure your house address is clearly visible from the curbside.

#### Inside Your House

##### ***Plan an evacuation of your House***

Develop and practice an evacuation plan for your home. Your plan should include:

- A floor plan with escapes routes.
- Easily accessible exits for young children, seniors and individuals with disabilities.
- A place to reunite after evacuation.

*Continued on back...*



# W I L D F I R E S



How to make  
your environment safer  
continued...

- A list of valuables to take to evacuate with during the emergency.
  1. Legal documents
  2. Photos
  3. Jewelry
  4. Computer files (floppy disks)
  5. Heirlooms, artwork and other keepsakes
- Practice emergency exit drills regularly.
- Work with neighbors to assist:
  - People with special needs.
  - People who need transportation.
- Preplan primary and secondary escape routes out of your neighborhood.

### Fire Extinguishers

- Place fire extinguishers in easily accessible locations, such as the kitchen and the garage.
- Teach responsible family members where they are located and how to use them.
- Fire extinguisher's need to be maintained and must be recharged after every use.
- Remember the word **P-A-S-S** when using a fire extinguisher.

**Pull** the pin.

**Aim** the nozzle at the base of the fire.

**Squeeze** the trigger.

**Sweep** the chemical side-to-side to extinguish the fire.

## EMERGENCY OUTLOOK

### Smoke detector

- Make sure smoke detectors are made and certified by an approved lab.
- Install smoke detectors on ceilings inside each bedroom and in the hallway on every level.
- Be sure to test your smoke detectors regularly and replace batteries twice a year, perhaps when clocks are changed in the spring and fall.

## Emergency Preparedness

- ✓ **Store at least a three-day supply of drinking water and food for each family member.**
- ✓ **Establish an out of state contact.**
- ✓ **Store first aid supplies, portable radio, flashlight, batteries and emergency cooking equipment.**
- ✓ **Makes sure all family members are ready to protect themselves with STOP, DROP and ROLL if their clothes should catch fire.**

### When a fire occurs

If a fire occurs while you are inside, remember the following:

- **Call 911**, and report your location.
- Feel the top and bottom of the door with the back of your hand before exiting. Open the cautiously to see if it is cool. **DO NOT EXIT IF THE DOOR IS HOT.** Try an alternate exit instead.
- Close doors behind you when evacuating to slow down flames, smoke and heat.
- Close the door and stay in the room if fire, smoke or heat are blocking escape routes.
- Keep smoke and fumes out by stuffing cracks around the door and vents with sheets, blankets, etc.
- Open a window if no smoke is entering the room; place a sheet or cloth outside to signal for help.

### POINTS OF CONTACT

**Emergency**  
911

**Fire (non-emergency)**  
(661) 259-2111

**Sheriff**  
(661) 255-1121

**City of Santa Clarita  
Emergency Preparedness**  
(661) 286-4093



[www.santa-clarita.com](http://www.santa-clarita.com)